

Greenpeace takes Kennedy to task

You'd expect Greenpeace to lambast plenty of politicians as enemies of the environment.

But **Ted Kennedy?**

Sure enough, the activist group

Political Notes

By KEVIN DENNEHY

known for its flair for drama hammers the liberal Bay State senator – and Cape Wind opponent – in new ads being shown in states nationwide in the days leading up to a congressional vote that could doom the Nantucket Sound wind farm.

In the 30-second spot, a cartoon Kennedy looms over the water like a Japanese movie monster, pounding wind turbines as they sprout from the water, and barks, "I might see them from my mansion on the Cape."

(Interestingly, though, the voice actor doesn't seem to even try for Kennedy's distinct accent.)

The ads will run in the home states of several key lawmakers in the days leading up to the vote – an \$8.7 billion Coast Guard bill that could make the Nantucket Sound wind farm vulnerable to state veto. Among those targeted so far are U.S. Sens. **Hillary Clinton**, D-N.Y., **Joseph Lieberman**, D-Conn., and **Norm Coleman**, R-Minn.

The ad is not being shown in Massachusetts.

"We've targeted the Senate because we need leaders to stop this amendment before it can even be voted," said **Kate Smolski** of Greenpeace. "And we're looking to people who have had good environmental records."

Why are they bashing Kennedy? Well, the Hyannisport homeowner is a well-known Cape Wind opponent, citing concerns about the federal process.

What's more, though, a spokesman for U.S. Sen. **Ted Stevens**, R-Alaska, said Stevens inserted the language because Kennedy told him to, according to an Alaska newspaper.

A Kennedy spokeswoman denied the Massachusetts senator wrote



A Greenpeace ad showing Sen. Edward Kennedy bashing wind turbines as they pop up from the water is being shown in several states as the Senate gets ready to vote on a bill that could doom the Cape Wind project.

the amendment, but conceded his opposition to Cape Wind is not likely to change.

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The newest Democrat in the governor's race seems to be edging toward supporting the Cape Wind project.

Some reports said millionaire businessman **Chris Gabrieli** endorsed the project after the taping of a gubernatorial debate on CBS4 Friday, but a spokesman said it's not that simple.

Indeed, Gabrieli spokesman **Dan Cence** said yesterday Gabrieli supports renewable energy – and wants the Bay State to be a leader. But ...

"Before endorsing (Cape Wind) he wants to make sure everything is right on the final environmental report," Cence said. "And he wants to make sure the deal is right for Massachusetts."

Among the gubernatorial candidates, only Democrat **Deval Patrick** has endorsed the project.

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An interesting guest visited state

Senate candidate **Doug Bennett's** "workingman's" fundraiser in Hyannis Saturday – **Christy Mihos**, the independent candidate for governor.

Surprising? Maybe, considering Bennett caught some unwanted attention just last week when the media reported an embarrassing arrest from 2001.

Mihos said he knew nothing about the arrest – and wasn't there to endorse Bennett – but admires Bennett's campaign.

"He seems to be a nice, energetic candidate," Mihos said. "Anybody who's willing to put their name on a ballot, collect signatures and run, I thank them."

Both men are running as mavericks in their races. While Bennett is running as a Republican for the Cape and Islands seat – held by state Sen. **Robert O'Leary**, D-Barnstable – he concedes he'll likely do so without the support of party leaders.

State Republicans recruited Barnstable attorney **Ric Barros** to run for the seat, rather than endorse Bennett,

30, an energetic, if unpredictable, Nantucket selectman.

Mihos, of course, has his own issues with GOP leaders. His decision to run as an independent likely will cost votes for Lt. Gov. **Kerry Healey** – and cost Mihos friends in the party.



When the Massachusetts Republican Party Convention begins in Lowell next weekend, delegates from the Cape and Islands will represent the second-largest segment of representatives in the state.

Alas, with only Healey running for governor, there won't be nearly the drama expected at the Democratic convention in June.

When **Andrew Card** resigned as **President Bush's** chief of staff a few weeks ago, some suggested Card might jump into the race. Card will speak at the Lowell convention. It won't be as a candidate, though – he's delivering the keynote address.



It hasn't hurt the towns on the Cape to have a local lawmaker, state Sen. **Therese Murray**, as chairwoman of the powerful Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

But could the Plymouth Democrat be in line for an even higher job?

That was the buzz on Beacon Hill last week after reports that Senate President **Robert Travaglini** was contemplating retirement – and supporting Murray as his successor.

The rumors were squashed, however, when Travaglini insisted he would run again.

The two senators are close, having entered the Senate together in 1992. But Murray's office wouldn't say if Murray had been lining up supporters in case Travaglini left.

"The senator is supporting Sen. Travaglini in his re-election to his seat," said **Samantha Dallaire**, a Murray spokeswoman, "and to the Senate presidency."

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